BY L. V. BLUM,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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PEOPLE'S PRESS.

SALEM, N. C.

THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1864.

ELECTION RETURN.

The Progress of Tuesday has some returns of the army vote for members of Congress, in the 7th District, in place of Mr. Christian deceased.

CAMP 43rd N. C. T., April 15th, 1864.

DEAR PROGRESS:—Yesterday the vote was taken for member of Congress in the 7th District, and resulted as follows, in Cooke's and Kirkland's brigades:

	Leach.	Foster.	Ramsay.
Cooke's brigade,	227	88	12
Kirkland's "	81	170	22
Total,	308	259	34

Which gives Leach a majority of 49 in the two brigades.

The regiments voted as follows: 15th and 48th together, Leach 148, Foster 40, Ramsay 8; 46th, Leach 64, Foster 43, Ramsay 4; 27th, Leach 15, Foster 6, Ramsay 0; 44th, Leach 20, Foster 41, Ramsay 7; 26th, Leach 20, Foster 116, Ramsay 15; 52d, Leach 23, Foster 13, Ramsay 0. No vote in the 11th and 47th. Nothing from the front.

HAL.

As far as heard from the vote stands thus:

	Leach.	Foster.	Ramsay.
Cooke's brigade,	227	89	12
Kirkland's "	81	170	22
Camp Holmes,	46	4	4
Fair Grounds Hos.	5	0	1
	359	263	39

VICE PRESIDENT STEPHENS' SPEECH.—We commence this week the publication of Vice President Stephens' speech to the Georgia Legislature, to be concluded in our next.

A portion of the most influential and leading Georgia papers heartily endorse this great speech in favor of civil liberty, while other papers in this State, Georgia, and elsewhere, decline to publish it, simply because it does not answer their purpose,—that's all, confessedly.

Next week we will give some comments of the independent press upon this able and unanswerable speech.

YANKEE CONGRESS.—A resolution was offered in the Yankee Congress, on the 9th, proposing the expulsion of Long, of Ohio, for sentiments uttered the day previous favoring the recognition of the Southern Confederacy. It was rejected for want of a two-thirds vote.

During the debate, a few days since, Harris, of Maryland, said that the South could not be subjugated. "God Almighty grant," said he, "that it may never be. I hope that you never will subjugate the South."

A resolution to expel Harris was also lost for want of a two thirds vote.

SUICIDE.—We learn that Alexander Ridings, a respectable citizen of this county, committed suicide, by hanging himself, the latter part of last week. It is supposed that trouble caused by the present unhappy state of the country, induced him to commit the rash act. His body was found on the 15th instant, hanging by the neck on the West bank of Muddy Creek, on the premises belonging to the heirs of the late Jacob Vogler, about a quarter of a mile from his residence. He leaves a wife and children.

TAXES.—As various persons have procured blank tax lists to fill up, we have been requested by J. Boner, Esq., Tax Lister for Salem Distriet, to state that in the specifications of "Money on hand and solvent debts due," $100 is not to be deducted, the law exempting *nets* or *seins* of the value of $100, and not *notes* or *sums*.

FIRE.—We learn that Johnson's Mill, (formerly known as Clonse's Mill,) near Clemmonsville, was destroyed by fire last week, together with a considerable quantity of grain. It was valuable property, but we have not ascertained the estimated amount of the loss.

Supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

SMALL POX.—Several cases of small pox having occurred in this county, about 8 miles from this place, and great danger existing of this loathsome disease spreading, persons should be very cautious in their intercourse with the citizens of the infected district.

Resolutions have been adopted by the Board of Commissioners of Salem and Winston, imposing heavy fines upon persons visiting either of the towns who have been exposed to its contagion.

There are some 14 or 15 cases in the region above alluded to, on Muddy Creek. And we learn the disease is raging to a considerable extent in Davie and Rowan counties.

THE ENROLLMENT.—The enrollment of all between 17 and 18 and 45 and 50 in this county, will take place on Friday and Saturday next,—the 121st Regiment on the 22d, and the 71st on the 23rd.

Another enrollment, we learn, of those between 18 and 45 will take place in June.

The Board of Surgeons, we learn, will attend the enrollment in June to examine all persons between the ages of 17 and 50, who desire exemption.

Western Carolina.—The Asheville News of the 7th inst. says: "A party of fifteen or twenty armed men visited the Reems' creek settlement, eight miles both of this place, on Sunday night last, and forcibly took all the firearms they could find. They visited the houses of Rev. Jacob Weaver, Rev. Montraville Weaver, Col. J. T. Weaver, and Capt. Parker. The latter two gentlemen are absent in the service. The band represented themselves as belonging to Col. Kirk's command on Laurel. This may or may not be so. They were pursued by some Confederate cavalry, but made good their escape.

Chase is said to have negotiated a loan in England of three hundred thousand pounds sterling.

THE PEOPLE'S PRESS.

VOL. XIII. SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1864 NO. 51.

☞ Our readers will please excuse us for again referring to the unscrupulous and unfair sheet, published at Winston, entitled the "Western Sentinel." So well is the character of that sheet established, however, that its "shafts, generally, fall harmless to the ground," or rebound upon its own head. Even candidates for office within range of the circulation of said *great*, self-important Western *luminary*, consider themselves very fortunate if they can secure its *opposition*, that in itself render ing their election almost certain. Thus Gov. Vance's prospects for re-election brightened considerably, in this section, on Thursday of last week, when the Sentinel-man announced that he did not feel called upon to advocate the Governor's claims for re-election; but in the next line, unwittingly, "put a feather in the cap" of Mr. Holden, by saying that he would, however, vote for Gov. Vance in preference to Mr. Holden, thus undoing what he had done for the Governor, damaging his prospects and elevating Mr. Holden!

We have, heretofore, as much as possible, avoided any newspaper controversy with the unscrupulous proprietor of the Sentinel, and have repeatedly rejected communications of a personal nature, several of very recent dates, because we have been averse to encouraging anything of the kind, and believed we could serve our readers more acceptably otherwise, particularly as we have been frequently requested to pay no attention at all "to the dirty and unscrupulous sheet," the stock in trade of which is political falsehoods and misrepresentations. What our course may be, in the future, depends on circumstances.

We emphatically deny that we ever urged the people to resist the government; on the contrary, we advised obedience to the laws, under all circumstances, for proof of which we refer to our columns, not to the garbled extracts made by the Sentinel. We occasionally stated facts, that Congress might be induced to do something to mitigate the condition of the people of Western North Carolina, upon whom the war pressed heavily, and so did the Sentinel, in strong terms. That paper stated that North Carolina had already furnished her full quota of troops, and insisted that no more men should be taken from North Carolin, until other States had also done their duty in this respect! We based our apprehensions, as to the future, more upon the prospective condition of those sections of country where white labor was principally employed in agricultural pursuits, than anything else. Take all the boys and men away from 17 to 50, and from whence will the army and the women and children left at home derive their support? If the government will institute measures to protect and foster the agricultural interests of the country, all will yet be well; for if the army is clothed and well fed, and our brave men in the field have the consolation of knowing that their families are not suffering at home, we can fight the Yankees for an indefinite period of time, obtain a just and honorable peace in the end, and enjoy liberty and independence forever.

We entertained gloomy apprehensions, ever since Mr. Smith's efforts in Congress for the benefit of the agriculturists, (and as a natural consequence of every body else,) failed. But now it affords us great pleasure to see that arrangements are on foot to alleviate the condition of this section of country, which will shed considerable light upon the previous dark and gloomy prospect, admitted to exist by every candid and impartial mind, in case many more men were taken from the farms. We allude to the following article from the Raleigh Progress.

The *Progress* of April 15th, says:

"We are glad to learn that the government is awaking to a sense of the danger likely to follow the conscribing of farmers at this time. We learn that 61 farmers have recently been released from Camp Holmes and sent home to cultivate their farms."

We also learn that, in order to effect proper and liberal exemptions in favor of the farming interests of the country, three discreet persons are to be appointed in each county, to be selected from between the ages of 45 and 50, whose duty it shall be to co-operate with the county enrolling officer, in making the exemptions. Farmers with large families of children, or otherwise wholly dependent, and those able to produce a considerable surplus, will be considered fit subjects for exemption.

This movement, if carried out to a sufficient extent, will certainly have a great tendency to encourage the desponding, as more fears were entertained from suffering and want of provisions, in the army and at home, than from the actual enemy. Let the government, we repeat, take care of the farming interest, and we have no fears for the result of the war.

For the last time, we inform the apparently obtuse proprietor of the Sentinel, that we are for a vigorous prosecution of the war, by fighting with the sword in one hand, and the olive branch in the other,—in favor of peace upon just and honorable terms,—for Constitutional liberty and independence.

We know but little about the Newbern (yankee) Times. From what we do know, we are disposed to treat it with silent contempt.—We care nothing for its opinion, good or bad. The charge preferred by the Times that the Press "is very defiant in its attitude" towards the government, is simply false, as every reader of this paper knows. Further comment is unnecessary. The simple fact of the charge having been transferred to the columns of the Sentinel is sufficient.

THE NEWS.

FORT PILLOW.—Advices from Fort Pillow state that Forrest attacked that place with Chalmer's division, on the 16th, which was garrisoned by 300 whites and 400 negroes. The fort refusing to surrender, it was taken by storm. The fort was entered by two divisions from opposite sides simultaneously, and an awful slaughter followed. One hundred prisoners were taken and the balance slain. Many jumped into the river and were drowned or shot in the water. Over one hundred thousand dollars worth of stores were taken.—Our loss is put down at 75.

Our latest dates state that the capture of Fort Pillow seems to be confirmed.

SHREVEPORT.—A great battle is reported between Kirby Smith and Banks, near Shreveport, Louisiana. Banks is said to have been defeated with a loss of 14,000 men. Figures rather large.

The latest intelligence only confirms the Shreveport news to some extent.

FROM VIRGINIA.—The Richmond Examiner of the 18th says:

The report was prevalent yesterday that the much talked of Burnside expedition had made its appearance in the vicinity of Suffolk; that its forces were marching to and fro, and landing at different points between the Blackwater and Suffolk and at Portsmouth. It was conjectured that these movements were intended as a blind, and that the enemy's real object was, by his facilities on the lower James for transportation, to proceed up the Peninsula.

It is impossible to gather, from the various rumours, the precise disposition of the enemy's forces; but all appear to agree that a large force has landed at Portsmouth. It was reported that there was a large body of the enemy, three or four thousand strong, at Phillips' mill, nine miles this side of Suffolk.

It was reported at Orange Court House, on the 17th, that Grant would begin his advance on the 18th, eight days rations having been issued for that purpose.

Culpepper Court House citizens, just out of the enemy's lines, say that Grant will force a fight soon in order to have the benefit of the old troops, whose terms of service expire in May, not one-fifth of whom have re-enlisted.

Meade is reported to be receiving reinforcements rapidly.

FROM TENNESSEE.—No important war news from this quarter.

The East Tennessee Convention met at Knoxville on the 12th. There were delegates from nearly every county. Tom Wilson made an explanation of his compromise with Jeff. Davis and denounced his acts as unconstitutional. William Heiskel was elected President. Daniel Trueheart made a speech denouncing the apostates in the bitterest terms. A combination of politicians against the administration exists in strong force.

Andrew Johnson made a speech declaring that the negroes had been working the rich lands of Tennessee long enough, and said that slavery is already dead. He said if we had no slaves there would be but few traitors.

Grant put down the official loss at Missionary Ridge and Lookout Mountain at 600 killed, 4,000 wounded, and 700 missing.

From Tennessee—Confederate Success.—DALTON, April 12.—It is reported on good authority that Grierson attacked Forrest near Summerville on the 10th inst., and was handsomely repulsed.

[Yankee papers of the 6th mention a fight at the same place on the 30th ult. and a Confederate victory. They say that "the 6th Tennessee cavalry, Col. Marsh, about 600 strong, had a fight near Somerville, Tenn., on the 30th ult., with about 1500 rebel cavalry, supposed to be part of Gen. McCullough's command. Our forces, after fighting 3 or 4 hours, and finding themselves largely outnumbered, fell back, leaving 8 officers and 75 men killed and wounded in the hands of the rebels."]

Rumored attack on Mobile.—RICHMOND, April 12.—Official dispatches from Mobile say that Farragut is reported to be preparing for an attack on Mobile.

FROM CHARLESTON.—*Seige Matters—281st Day.*—The enemy continues at intervals, the bombardment of the city. A vigorous fire was kept up on Thursday morning which ceased about 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Between forty and fifty shells were fired at the city.

Some thirty five or forty shots were also fired at Fort Sumter, most of which struck, but did no damage. The enemy are still busy at the "Swamp Angel" Battery. There is no change in the fleet.—*Charleston Mercury, 15th.*

FROM WESTERN CAROLINA.—The Asheville News of the 14th April says:

Considerable anxiety has been felt here for some days, produced by the movements of the disloyal men in the adjoining county of Madison. Col. Kirk, who holds, it is said, a Federal commission, has been receiving, so saith rumor, many recruits during two or three weeks last past.—Our forces at Marshall, 20 miles below here, have been repeatedly fired upon, and on one occasion the picket captured. The latest intelligence represents Kirk as threatening an attack, and a fight may occur at any hour.

As to the actual strength of Kirk's forces, we presume no correct estimate can be made. Since the falling back of Longstreet, he has had everything his own way from Marshall to the Tennessee line.

P. S. Since the foregoing was put in type we learn that our forces have evacuated Marshall, falling back in this direction. Verily the tide of war is rolling to our very doors, but we hope soon to see it rolled back upon our invaders. Let all be patient, and they shall see what they shall see. We learn that a raid was made on Burnsville, Sunday night, and about 100 guns and a quantity of provisions captured and carried away. No other particulars.

FROM EASTERN CAROLINA.—The Daily Confederate of the 19th, says:

"Our Kinston correspondent informs us, that on the 14th instant, the Yankees advanced in force upon our lines and drove in our pickets on the Trent road. Our troops were reinforced, when the enemy fell back to their out-post at Deep Gully. There was no skirmishing, and all has been quiet since."

Latest from Europe.—By the arrival of the Virginia, at New York, we have interesting news from Europe. Victoria had announced her intention of holding a Court at Buckingham Palace on the 6th inst. Owing to difficulties which have arisen as to the presumptive succession to the Austrian crown, Maximillian has again postponed his acceptance of the Mexican crown. The Danish war "drags its slow length along." The Prussians attempted to storm Duppeln, but were repulsed after a five hours' engagement. The Pope has recovered from his late serious illness.

EXEMPST IN MISSISSIPPI.

While some of our citizens are wanting to put in many of the State officers other States are claiming exemption for their long lists.—We extract the following from a recent proclamation of Gov Clark, of Mississippi:

I do hereby proclaim that the following named officers are necessary or the proper administration of the Government of the State of Mississippi. All State, district and county officers elected by the people, in pursuance of the provisions of the constitution and laws, including the governor, State treasurer, secretary of State, auditor, attorney general, district attorneys, judges of the high court of errors and appeals, judges and clerks of the circuit and probate courts, members of the boards of police, county treasurer, sheriffs, tax assessors, justices of the peace and constables.

Also the public printer, the reporter of the decisions, and the clerk of the high court of errors and appeals' registers and receivers of land officers of the State, commissioners appointed by boards of police under the act to provide for the relief of destitute families of soldiers, the private secretary of the governor, the assistant auditor and all clerks authorized by law and appointed in the State department, the general salt agent and all agents appointed by the Governor or by his authority, the commissioners appointed by the Legislature to examine the auditor and treasury departments, the clerk of said commissioners, the keeper of the capitol, the officers of the penitentiary, of the lunatic asylum, and the asylum for the blind and for the deaf and dumb, the sergeant and guards of the penitentiary, judge and clerk of the criminal court of Warren county.

Also the following military officers and men the Major General of the staff of the Commander-in-Chief and of the Major General, all clerks and agents in the staff department, and until duly discharged all officers and men who were enlisted as volunteers and in the army of the State in service on the 17th of February, A. D., 1864.

IMPORTANT CORRESPONDENCE.

BROWNSVILLE, Granville, N. C.,
April 13, 1864.

To the Comptroller of the Treasury of North Carolina.

SIR: One of the Magistrates who is to take the list of taxable property, applied to me today to know whether the 4 per cent funded currency should be given in, in the taxable property. I could not advise him, and at his request I ask a solution of the question.—Please answer in the Daily *Confederate*, and you will oblige yours, &c.,

A. W. VENABLE.

COMPTROLLER'S DEPARTMENT,
RALEIGH, N. C., April 16, 1864.

Hon. A. W. VENABLE:

SIR: In reply to yours of the 13th inst., I am authourized to say, that our present Revenue Law does not impose any tax upon Confederate Bonds of any kind, for either State or County purposes.

At the adjourned session in February, 1863, in the Revenue Bill before the General Assembly, Confederate Bonds were included in the 4th paragraph of Section 1, together with County and State Bonds.

The two Houses disagreed upon sundry matters in the bill, a committee of conference was appointed and made their report, which was adopted, and one recommendation was to strike out Confederate bonds, which was agreed to. So that neither bonds then issued or those since issued by the Confederate States, of whatever kind, are subject to State or county taxes.

The Public Treasurer and Attorney General concur in this opinion.

Very respectfully, your ob't serv't,
C. H. BROGDEN, *Comptroller.*

An abolition book made its appearance recently in New York advocating directly the amalgamation of the white with the African race. It is accompanied perhaps with a score of endorsements. Some of them, unless they are forgeries, are from sources from which such disgusting things were not to be expected. But among these endorsements are one from Fred Douglas, and another from Dr. J. McCune Smith. Now, these two fellows are both niggers. The last named nigger says to the author of the work, "I am willing to put my signature to your doctrines." How exceedingly condescending, to be sure! The strong smelling nigger announces, with an air as if he were rendering an especial favor to the white race, that he is willing to put his signature to the doctrine of white and black intermarriages! The abolitionists ought to hold public meetings all over the country and give him a vote of thanks.—*Louisville Journal.*

COTTON AT NEW YORK.—The N. Y. Times of the 14th says, "the receipts of cotton from the Southwest continue on a large scale. The aggregate last week was 7,438 bales, making 15,832 bales for the fortnight. This movement is considerely ahead of the current demand for home consumption. The Morning Star, from New Orleans, will deliver 1200 bales this morning."

The French are marching on Matamoras, and a fight had taken place in which the French were victorious. Cortinas had issued a proclamation ordering all his troops to be concentrated on the Rio Grande to resist the occupation of that place by the French.

The Exchange of Prisoners—The basis is understood to be on the principle of man for man and rank for rank, which will insure a complete exchange of all prisoners on either side except the "colored prisoners."—*Rich. Whig.*

A perfect understanding was come to between Colonel Ould and Gen. Butler, whereby the exchange of prisoners will be hereafter conducted honorably and humanely.—*N. Y. Herald, 5th.*

Rhode Island Election.—The Republicans carried the gubernatorial election in Rhode Island by a small majority.

Maryland Election—Maryland voted on the emancipation question on the 6th. The Emancipationists carried the State by an overwhelming majority.

Death of Mrs. Clay.—The widow of Henry Clay, we learn from late yankee papers, is dead. Her age was 88. She was of the Hart family of Orange County, N. C.

MISCEGENATION—WHAT IT MEANS—REMARKABLE CONFESSION OF A REPUBLICAN JOURNAL.

The Yankees are running mad in their love for the negro. Not content with sacrificing one million of lives of their own men in this war for the negro, (as confessed by a New York paper)—not content in receiving them "with marked favour" at the President's receptions—not content with riding in the same car with them—not content in having them as pall-bearers at the funeral of their great public men, (one of the pall-bearers at Owen Lovejoy's funeral was, according to their own accounts, a negro, formerly a slave)—not content with making soldiers of them, and placing them on a political equality—not content with all this, the Republican party, in their wild love for the negro, has inaugurated a new chapter in their creed: "Miscegenation"—*a wholesale intermarriage of blacks and whites.* This is the last and new phase of abolitionism in the North. It is openly and unblushingly avowed—preached even from the pulpit! It is the new test of Republican faith. To show how rapidly and alarmingly the infamous and disgusting practice is spreading in the North, we copy a portion of an editorial on the subject from the New York Times. The reader must bear in mind, when reading the article below, that it is the language, not of a "Copperhead" journal, but of a thorough, out and out Republican journal—an open, voluntary confession of a paper that has never faltered in its support and devotion to the principles of that party, and that has done much in advocacy of the Lincoln administration and the encouragement of this war as any other paper in the whole North. Now that it sees ruin and degradation and a level with the negro staring it in its face, it is forced to confess (and a very humiliating confession it is for a Republican paper) that the only quarter to which the country can now look to be saved is the Democratic party. But let no one fail to read this article—let it be circulated in every Southern paper far and wide—let it be read, if necessary to our army. If there is a man in the whole South that can read this confession below without firing his heart and causing a feeling of shame that we should ever have lived with such a people, then he must be dead in deed to every sense of honor, pride and virtue:

[*Rich Examiner.*

From the New York Times.

WHAT ARE WE COMING TO?

* * * A rage for marrying black people has lately taken possession of the Republican party. The Radicals have carried everything before them, and if things go on at their present rate it is feared that, in three months, every white man who is not connected by marriage with a colored family will be "read out" of the party. The gusto with which the abolitionists go into the insane movement is something at once disgusting and alarming. We shrink from putting on paper the stories which reach us as to the prevalence of this evil. We will only say that there will very soon be hardly a family in the city belonging to the Republican persuasion which will not be glorying in the possession of a negro son-in-law. It is said, we know not with what truth, that the Union League Club has fitted up a night bell at its door, and keeps a black minister on the premises who marries all couples of different colors at any hour of the day or night. Soon we may expect to hear of duels being fought about some black washerwoman, and crowds of white men thronging the basements of those families who have colored servants in their houses for the purpose of soliciting the honor (?) of their hands.

It is with great reluctance that we speak out our mind in this matter. But we have no hesitation in saying that if we had at the outset conceived it possible that hostility to slavery would ever have led to wholesale intermarriage with negroes, the Republican party should never have received any countenance or support from this journal. We owe it to ourselves and to posterity to say that the thing has taken us by surprise. It never entered our head. We now see and confess our error and deplore it.

The question which now naturally suggests itself to every right minded white man and woman is, where is this thing to *end*? Whither are we tending? What is to be done to stop this unnatural and detestable movement. For it is as plain as a pike staff that if it continues there will soon be no whites left in this once great and prosperous country. We shall all be mulattoes, and be afflicted with all the peculiarities, both mental and physical, of that unhappy race. The signs of this great and terrible change already begin to make themselves manifest in our streets; for the most careless observer who walks down Broadway can hardly fail to observe the appearance on a vast number of faces of the well-known brownish tinge. Let that tinge once become general and then farewell, a long farewell, to all our whiteness.

There is but one quarter—and we are not ashamed to own it—in which, in our opinion, we can look for either help or comfort at this crisis, and that is to the great, old, truly national Democratic party. It has its faults; nobody has been forced to call attention to them oftener than we; but it has never yet proved false to its race, and we are satisfied that whatever can be done now will be done by it to preserve the purity of our blood. * * *

WHAT FORREST DONE IN KENTUCKY.

The Mississippian of the 8th says:

We had the pleasure of meeting, last evening, with Major Severson, Chief Quartermaster of Gen. Forrest's command, who is visiting Selma on official business, and to whom we are indebted for many particulars of Gen. Forrest's campaign into Kentucky, which have not appeared in the public prints.

Yesterday evening a courier arrived, bringing dispatches from the command, together with an autograph letter from Gen. Forrest to Major Severson, dated the 28th ult., at Jackson, West Tennessee, where his command were resting after arduous and successful campaign, resulting in the capture of Paducah, Union City, Hickman, and other places, with vast quantities of military stores, which he succeeded in bringing to his own depots without any serious hindrance. His whole campaign was a series of triumphs, most important results, not the least of which is the restored confidence of the people of West Tennessee, thousands of whom are daily flocking to his standard.

In addition to the military stores captured, Gen. Forrest brought away over two thousand fine horses and mules. Three hundred of these he found in one government stable, at Paducah Ky. This surplus he expects to use in equipping his command.

ADVERTISING RATES.

TWO DOLLARS per square (12 lines or less) for the first insertion, and fifty cents for every subsequent insertion.

Obituary notices, Resolutions adopted by Orders Societies, &c., or anything of a personal nature will be inserted as advertisements, and charged accordingly. The money must accompany them say about ten cents a line.

From the London Times, 15th ult.

TERRIBLE DISASTER IN ENGLAND—INUNDATION AT SHEFFIELD.

At a little before midnight on Friday night last, one of those terrific disasters to which nearly all the great towns in the North of England are more or less exposed, happened at Sheffield. The great reservoir of the Sheffield Water Company—a reservoir nearly one hundred acres in extent, and which held more than a million cubic feet of water, suddenly burst its embankment and swept with the fury of another deluge down the narrow ground formed by the Loxley and Stannington Hills into Sheffield itself. Almost before warning could be given, the volume of water began rushing headlong down the valley, sweeping farms and houses, forges and factories, like chaff before it. Never, probably, before, has an accident of the same kind occurred, so ruinous in its wholesale destruction of property, so lamentably fatal in the loss of human life.

Whatever the sudden and tremendous flood could reach it seems to have destroyed, and, calculating only the number of houses swept away, and the persons missing who were known to have been in them on that fatal night, there is every reason to fear that the lives sacrificed by this awful calamity will not be less than 200, if they do not unfortunately exceed even that number. Of the damage done to property it is impossible at this early date to form even a conjecture.—The devastation in this respect is unparalleled. A large, populous and thriving district has been almost obliterated from the earth, scarce more than traces of the houses and factories that once stood there are now remaining.—The Don, owing to the heavy rains, was unusually high, and the additional water thrown into it has laid hundreds of acres under water, and inflicted incalculable injury to the growing crops. Of the destructive character of the flood there were abundant evidences on every hand. Timber in large quantities, bed posts, feather beds, tables, clocks, and various kinds of household furniture passed down, and several carcases of cattle also.

Large numbers of people have lined the river's banks all the day, but it is now evident that the greatest volume of water has passed by, and farther damage here is not apprehended. The water is very thickly impregnated with mud—a proof that it must have swept with terrific violence over the land adjoining the river. Fish—pike, in particular—have been left in large quantities on land from which the water has subsided.

LATER.

Every additional inquiry made into the circumstances of this appalling calamity shows that it has been much more disastrous than was at first anticipated. It is now estimated that the loss of life will exceed two hundred and fifty, and that the value of the property destroyed exceeds half a million. From Bradfield, where the reserv ir burst, down the course of the rivers, for twelve or fourteen miles, the country is laid waste. The reservior covered an area of seventy-six acres, and would hold 141 000,000 cubic feet of water. The embankment, which crossed the end of the valley, was an enormous erection, with an average height of eighty five feet, and forty feet in thickness. It was three hundred yards long. Between Matlock and Hillsborough, a distance of four miles, the greatest loss of life has been caused.

Within this tract whole rows of houses have been swept entirely away, in three of which alone there were twenty-five lives lost. In the opposite row the whole of the inhabitants were drowned, and scarcely any of their bodies have been discovered. The flood seems to have swept off everything before it, from the confluence of the Loxley and the Revilian to the Don. Between Wardsend and Sheffield on the Don, the bodies were seen lying in the mills and in the mud and ruins. There were fourteen in one place, ten in another, and thirteen in a third. At Neepsend nine hundred acres of gardens were devastated, and whole families were swept away. An official report just received, states that one hundred and fifty six dead bodies have already been discovered; seventy have been identified. Large numbers are not yet found. Bodies have been discovered as far down the river as Doncaster. Along the banks of the river, between that town and Sheffield, the scene of the inundation was visited by vast crowds on Sunday; the police and as strong military guard, acted for the maintenance of order and security of property.

A movement for a general subscription was immediately commenced, and a meeting will be held to morrow. The inhabitants of the submerged districts have lost everything, and an appeal for instant help will be made. Hundreds have nothing left of their property but their night dresses. The inquests were opened on Saturday night, and then adjourned for ten days. There were then ninety bodies in the work-house, and the coroner said he had been informed there had been nearly two hundred found. He referred to a statement, which is generally made and believed, that in consequence of the dangerous state of the reservoir, warning was sent to the inhabitants of the valley as far as Danflask, and that only a few lives were lost there, but that the warning was not sent to the thickly peopled districts below.

THE WAR IN THE INDIAN COUNTRY.

Judge Fields, of the Cherokee Nation, has made a public appeal with regard to the distressed condition to which the women and children of the Indian allies, in the Creek and Cherokee nations, have been reduced by the calamities of the war.

He represents that their country, lately the abode of plenty, and blessed with the comforts of home and civilized progress, has been invaded and occupied by the enemy, their property wantonly destroyed, their fields laid waste, their homes laid in ashes, and their families driven ruthlessly from their borders, subjected to lamentable want and distress. Especially have these hardships fallen upon the Cherokees. Homeless and naked, they are now wandering among strangers, in search of food and raiment, and dependent upon the charity of their less afflicted brethren for shelter in their refuge.

We have in the sufferings of the poor creatures a new and attractive object of charity.—There have been so many and multiform modes in which the public charity which this war has given occasion for has manifested itself, that it is remarkable that it has hitherto overlooked the "red men," our faithful allies on the border, who are exposed to the worst calamities of the war. These allies have served us well in the war. Indeed, we are informed that seven regiments from the Indian country are now in the service, organized with the forces operating west of the Mississippi.

The People's Press.

For the Press.

THE LAST LEAF OF IDORA'S JOURNAL.

BY JOHN H. BONER.

The bloom is on the cherry,
The scarlet cydonia is blown;
The garden is starred with buttercups
And the tulip opens its crown;
The orchard is hazy with blossoms,
And in the pear tree's breast,
Heaving with snowy clusters,
The robin perches her nest.

Oh! how strangely sweet is the Springtime,
As she comes from the chamber of Death
With her robe of purple lilies
And her hyacinthine breath!
Ah! some of the violets that bloom
By the sunny slopes of the meadow
Will soon lie clasped in my hands—for I walk
In the Valley of the Shadow.

SONG.—BY ALFRED TENNYSON.

Hark they brought her warrior dead;
She nor swooned nor uttered cry;
All her maidens, watching, said,
She must weep or she will die.

Then they praised him, soft and low,
Called him worthy to be loved,
Truest friend and noblest foe;
Yet she neither spoke nor moved.

Stole a maiden from her place,
Lightly to the warrior stepped,
Took the face-cloth from his face:
Yet she neither moved, nor wept.

Rose a nurse of ninety years
Set his child upon her knee—
Like summer tempest came her tears—
"Sweet, my child, I live for thee."

SPEECH OF
HON. ALEX. H. STEPHENS,
DELIVERED BEFORE
THE GEORGIA LEGISLATURE,
ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT, MARCH 16TH, 1864.

Reported for the Atlanta Intelligencer by A. E. Marshall, and Revised by Himself.

At the hour of 7½ o'clock, P. M, the Hall had been filled to its utmost capacity by members of the Legislature and citizens generally, and as the vast assemblage within saw the beloved form of Georgia's proud and noble son, every eye grew bright with joy, and a hearty and unanimous applause bid him welcome.

Mr. Stephens ascended the Speaker's stand and spoke as follows:

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives:

In compliance with your request, or at least with that of a large portion of your respective bodies, I appear before you to-night to speak of the state of public affairs. Never, perhaps, before, have I risen to address a public audience under circumstances of so much responsibility, and never did I feel more deeply impressed with the weight of it. Questions of the most momentous importance are pressing upon you for consideration and action. Upon these I am to address you. Would that my ability, physically, and in all other respects, were commensurate with the magnitude of the occasion. We are in the midst of dangers and perils. Dangers without and dangers within. Scylla on the one side and Charybdis on the other. War is being waged against us by a strong, unscrupulous and vindictive foe; a war for our subjugation, degradation and extermination. From this quarter threaten the perils without. Those within arise from questions of policy as to the best means, the wisest and safest, to repel the enemy, achieve our independence, to maintain and keep secure our rights and liberties. Upon the decision of these questions, looking to the proper development of our limited resources, wisely and patriotically, so that their entire efficiency may be exerted in our deliverance, with, at the same time, a watchful vigilance to the safety of the citadel itself, as much depends as upon the skill of our commanders and the valor of our citizen soldiers in the field. Everything dear to us as freemen is at stake. An error in judgment, though springing from the most patriotic motives, whether in councils of war or councils of state, may be fatal. He, therefore, who rises under such circumstances to offer words of advice, not only assumes a position of great responsibility, but stands on dangerous ground. Impressed profoundly with such feelings and convictions, I should shrink from the undertaking you have called me to, but for the strong consciousness that where duty leads no one should ever fear to tread. Great as are the dangers that threaten us, perilous as is our situation—and I do not intend to overstate or understate, neither to awaken undue apprehension, or to excite hopes and expectations never to be realized—perilous, therefore, as our situation is, it is far, far from being desperate or hopeless, and I feel no hesitation in saying to you, in all frankness and candor, that if we are true to ourselves, and true to our cause, all will yet be well."

In the progress of the war thus far, it is true there is much to be seen of suffering, of sacrifice and of desolation; much to sicken the heart and cause a blush for civilization and christianity. Cities have been taken, towns have been sacked, vast amounts of property have been burned, fields have been laid waste, records have been destroyed, churches have been desecrated, women and children have been driven from their homes, unarmed men have been put to death, States have been overrun and whole populations made to groan under the heel of despotism; all these things are seen and felt, but in them nothing is to be seen to cause dismay, much less despair; these deeds of ruin and savage barbarity have been perpetrated only on the outer borders, on the coast, and on the line of the rivers, where by the aid of their ships of war and gunboats the enemy has had the advantage; the great breadth of the interior—the heart of our country—has never yet been reached by them; they have as yet, after a struggle of near three years, with unlimited means, at a cost of not less than four thousand millions of dollars (how much more is unknown) and hundreds of thousands of lives, been able only to break the outer shell of the Confederacy. The only signal advantages they have as yet gained have been on the water, or where their land and naval forces were combined. That they should have gained advantages under such circumstances, is not a matter of much surprise. Nations in war, like individual men or animals, show their real power in combat when they stand upon the advantage that nature has given them, and fight on their own ground and in their own element. The lion though king of the forest, cannot contend successfully with the shark in the water. In no conflict of arms away from gunboats, during the whole war, since the first battle of Manassas to that of Ocean Pond, have the gallant soldiers failed of victory when the numbers on each side were at all equal. The farthest advance into the interior from the base and protection of their gunboats, either on the coast or the rivers, that the enemy has been able to make for three years was the late movement from Vicksburg to Meridian, and the speedy turn of that movement shows nothing more clearly than the difficulties and disadvantages attending all such; these things should be noted and marked in considering our present situation and the prospects of the future. In all our losses up to this time, no vital blow has ever been given either to our cause or our energies. We still hold Richmond, after repeated efforts to take it, both by force and strategy. We still hold, on the Gulf, Mobile, and on the Ocean front, Wilmington, Savannah and Charleston. These places have been, and are still held against the most formidable naval armament ever put afloat.

At Charleston the enemy seem to direct all their power, land and naval, that can be brought to bear in combination—all their energy, rancour and vengeance. "*Carthago delenda est*" is their vow as to this devoted city. Every means that money can command and ingenuity suggest, from the hugest engines of war never before known to the fiendish resort of Greek fire, have been and are being applied for its destruction. For nearly nine months the city, under the skill of our consummate commander, his subordinates, and the heroic virtues of our matchless braves in the ranks, still holds out against all the disadvantages of a defence without suitable naval aid. That she may continue to hold out, and her soil never be polluted by the unhallowed foot print of her vandal besiegers, is, of course, the earnest wish of all. But even if so great a disaster should happen to us as the loss of Charleston, be not dismayed, indulge no sentiment akin to that of despair—Charleston is not a vital part. We may lose that place, Savannah, Mobile, Wilmington, and even Richmond, the seat of government, and still survive. We may lose all our strong places—the enemy may traverse our great interior as they have lately done in Mississippi, and we may still survive. We should, even under such calamities, be no worse off than our ancestors were in their struggle for independence. During the time that "tried men's souls" with them, every city on the coast, from Boston to Savannah, was taken by the enemy. Philadelphia was taken, and Congress driven away. South Carolina, North Carolina, portions of Georgia, Virginia, and other States, were overrun and occupied by the enemy as completely as Kentucky, Missouri, Louisiana, and Tennessee are now. Take courage from the example of your ancestors—disasters caused with them nothing like dismay or despair—they only aroused a spirit of renewed energy and fortitude. The principles they fought for, suffered and endured so much for, are the same for which we are now struggling.—State Rights, State Sovereignty, the great principle set forth in the declaration of independence—the right of every State to govern itself as it pleases. With the same wisdom, prudence, forecaste and patriotism, the same or equal statesmanship on the part of our rulers in directing and wielding our resources, our material of war, that controlled public affairs at that time, in the camp and in the cabinet, and with the same spirit animating the breast of the people, devotion to liberty and right, hatred of tyranny and oppression, affection for the cause for the cause's sake; with the same sentiments and feelings on the part of rulers and people in these days as were in those, we might and may be overrun as they were; our interior may be penetrated by superior hostile armies, and our country laid waste as theirs was, but we can never be conquered, as they never could be. The issues of war depend quite as much upon Statesmanship as Generalship; quite as much upon what is done at the council board as upon what is done in the field. Much the greater part of all wars, is business—plain practical every day life business; there is in it no art or mystery or special knowledge, except good, strong, common sense—this relates to the finances, the quartermaster's and commissary's departments, the ways and means proper—in a word to the resources of a country and its capacities for war. The number of men that can be spared from production, without weakening the aggregate strength, the prospect of supplies, subsistence, arms and munitions of all kinds. It is as necessary that men called out should be armed, clothed, fed and fed, as that they should be put in the field—subsistence is as essential as men. At present we have subsistence sufficient for the year, if it is taken care of and managed with economy. Upon a moderate estimate, one within reasonable bounds, the tithes of wheat and corn for last year were not less, in the States east of the Mississippi, (to say nothing of the other side,) than eighteen million bushels. Kentucky and Tennessee are not included in this estimate. This would breed an army of five hundred thousand men and one hundred thousand horses for twelve months, and leave a considerable margin for waste or loss.—This we have without buying or impressing a bushel or pound. Nor need a bushel of it be lost on account of the want of transportation from points at a distance from railroads. At such places it could be fed to animals put into beef and pork, and thus lessen the amount of these articles of food to be bought. Upon a like estimate the tithe of meat for the last year, will supply the army for at least six months—rendering the purchase of this article necessary for only half the year—the surplus in the country, over and above the tithes, is ample to meet the deficiency. All that is wanting is men of business capacity, honesty, integrity, economy and industry in the management and control of that department. There need be no fear of the want of subsistence this year, if our officials do their duty. But how it will be next year, if the policy adopted by Congress, at its late session, is carried out, no one can safely venture to say.

This brings me to the main objects of this address, a review of those Acts of Congress to which your attention has been specially called by the Governor, and on which your action is invoked—these are, the currency, the military, and the *habeas corpus* suspension acts. It is the beauty of our system of government, that all in authority are responsible to the people.—It is, too, always more agreeable to approve than to disapprove what our agents have done. But in grave and important matters, however disagreeable or even painful it may be to express disapproval, yet sometimes the highest duty requires it. No exceptions should be taken to this when it is done in a proper spirit, and with a view solely for the public welfare. In free governments men will differ as to the best means of promoting the public good. Honest differences of opinions should never beget ill feelings, or personal alienations. The expressions of differences of opinion do no harm when truth alone is the object on both sides. Our opinions in all such discussions of public affairs should be given as from friends to friends, as from brothers to brothers, in a same boat, and [illegible] the storm or no dowp together. Disagreements should never arise, except from one cause—a difference in judgment, as to the best means to be adopted, or course to be pursued, for the common safety. This is the spirit by which I am actuated in the comments I shall make under these Acts of Congress.

As to the first two of these measures, the Tax Act and Funding Act, known together as the financial and currency measures, I simply say, in my judgment, they are neither proper, wise or just. Whether in the midst of conflicting views, in such diversity of opinion and interests, anything better could not be obtained, I know not—perhaps not. With that view we may be reconciled to what we do not approve. It is useless now to go into discussions of how better measures might have been obtained, or how bad ones might have been avoided—the whole is a striking illustration of the evils attending first departures from principle—the "*facilis descencus Averno.*" Error is ever the prolific source of error. Our present financial embarrassments had their origin in a blunder at the beginning, but we must deal with the present, not the past. These two Acts make it necessary for you to change your legislation to save the State from loss. As to the course you should adopt to do this, I know of none better than that recommended by the Governor. His views and suggestions on this point seem to be proper and judicious.

The military act by which conscription is extended so as to embrace all between the ages of seventeen and fifty, and by which the State is to be deprived of so much of its labor and stripped of the most efficient portion of her enrolled militia, pesents a much graver question. This whole system of conscription I have looked upon from the begining as wrong radically wrong in principle and policy. Contrary opinions, however, prevailed. But whatever differences of opinion may have been entertained as to the constitutionality of the previous Conscript Acts, it seems clear to my mind that but little difference can exist as to the unconstitutionality of this late act. The act provides for the organizing of troops of an anomalous character—partly as militia and partly as a portion of the regular armies. But in fact, they are to be organized neither as militia or part of the regular army. We have but two kinds of forces, the regular army and the militia—this is neither. The men are to be raised as conscripts for the regular forces while their officers are to be appointed as if they were militia. If they were intended as militia, they should have been called out, through the Governor, in their present organizations—if as regular forces they cannot be officerd as the act provides. It is most clearly unconstitutional. Who is to commission these officers? The Governor cannot, for they are taken from under his control; the President cannot constitutionally do it, for he can commission none except by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. It is for you to say whether you will turn over these forces and allow them to be conscripted, as is provided, leaving the question of constitutionality for the courts, or whether you will hold them in view of agricultural and other interests, or for the execution of your laws, and to be called out for the public defense in case of emergency by the Governor when he sees the necessity, or when they are called for as militia by the President. The Act upon its face, in its provisions for details, seems to indicate that its object is not to put the whole of them in the field. Nothing could be more ruinous to our cause if such were the object and intention and should it ever be carried into effect. For if all the white labor of the country, from seventeen to fifty—except the few exceptions stated—be called out and kept constantly in the field, we must fail, sooner or later, for want of subsistance and other essential supplies. To wage war successfully, men at home are as necessary as men in the field. Those in the field must be provided for, and their families at home must be provided for. In my judgment, no people can successfully carry on a long war, with more than a third of its arms-bearing population kept constantly in the field, especially if cut off by blockade, they are thrown upon their own internal resources for all necessary supplies, subsistence and munitions of war. This is a question of Arithmetic on well settled problems of political economy. But can we succeed against the hosts of the enemy unless all able to bear arms up to fifty years of age are called to and kept in the field. Yes, a thousand times, yes, I answer, with proper and skilful management. If we cannot without such a call, we cannot with it, if the war last long. The success of Greece against the invasion by Persia—the success of the Netherlands against Philip—the success of Frederic against the allied powers of Europe—the success of the Colonies against Great Britain, all show that it can be done. If our only hope was in matching the enemy with equal numbers, then our case would be desperate indeed. Superior numbers is one of the chief advantages of the enemy. We must avail ourselves of our advantages. We should not rely for success by playing into his hand. An invaded people have many advantages that may be resorted to to counterbalance superiority of numbers. These should be studied, sought and brought into active co operation. To secure success brains must do something as well as muskets.

Of all the dangers that threaten our ultimate success, I consider none more imminent than the policy embodied in this Act, if the object really be, as its broad terms declare, to put and keep in active service all between the age of seventeen and fifty, except the exempts named. On that line we will most assuredly, sooner or later, do what the enemy never could do, conquer ourselves. And if such be not the object of the Act—if it is only intended to conscript men not intended for service, not with a view to fill the army, but for the officials, to take charge of the general affairs of the country and the various necessary avocations and pursuits of life, then the Act is not only wrong in principle but exceedingly dangerous in its tendency.

I come now to the last of these Acts of Congress. The suspension of the writ of *habeas corpus* in certain cases. This is the most exciting, as it is by far the most important question before us. Upon this depends the question, whether the courts shall be permitted to decide upon the constitutionality of the late Conscript Act, should you submit that question to their decision, and upon it also depend other great essential rights enjoyed by us as freemen. This Act, upon its face, confers upon the President, the Secretary of War, and the General commanding in the trans Mississippi Department, (the two latter acting under the control and authority of the President) the power to arrest and imprison any person who may be simply charged with certain acts, not all of them even crimes under any law, and this is to be done without any oath or affirmation alledging probable cause as to the guilt of the party. This is attempted to be done under that clause of the Constitution which authorizes Congress to suspend the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus*, in certain cases.

In my judgment, this act is not only unwise, impolitic and unconstitutional, but exceedingly dangerous to public liberty. Its unconstitutionality does not rest upon the idea that Congress has not got the power to suspend the privilege of this writ [illegible] power to suspend it, [illegible] or any clearly implied powers are weaker as a class and subordinate to others positively and directly delegated.

I do not understand the Executive of this State to put his argument against this Act upon any such grounds. He simply states a fact, as it must clearly is, that the power to suspend at all is an implied power. There is no positive direct power delegated to do it. The power, however, is clear and clear only by implication. The language of the Constitution, that "the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended unless, when in cases of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it," clearly expresses the intention that the power may be exercised in the cases stated; but it does so by implication only, just as if a mother should say to her daughter, you shall not go unless you ride. Here the permission and authority to go is clearly given—This and this only, I understand the Governor to mean when he speaks of the power being an implied one. He raises no question as to the existence of the power or its validity when rightfully exercised, but he maintains, as I do, that its exercise must be controlled by all other restrictions in the Constitution bearing upon its exercise.—Two of these are to be found in the words accompanying the delegation. It can never be exercised except in rebellion or invasion. Other restrictions are to be found in other parts of the Constitution. In the amendments to the Constitution adopted after the ratification of the words as above quoted. These amendments were made, as is expressly declared in the preamble to them, to add "further declaratory and restrictive clauses" to prevent misconstruction or abuse of the powers previously delegated. To understand all the restrictions, therefore, thrown around the exercise of this power in the Constitution, these additional "restrictive clauses," must be read in conjunction with the original grant, whether that was made positively and directly or by implication only. These instructions, among other things, declare that "no person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law," and that the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the person or thing to be seized.

All admit that under the clause as it stands in the original grant, with the restrictions there set forth, the power can be rightfully exercised only in cases of rebellion or invasion. With these additional clauses, put in as further restrictions to prevent the abuse of powers previously delegated, how is this clause, conferring the power to suspend the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus*, now to read? In this way, and in this way only: "The privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended, unless when in cases of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it." And no person "shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law." And further, "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched and the persons or things to be seized."

The attempted exercise of the power to suspend the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* in this Act, is in utter disregard in the very face and teeth of these restrictions, as much so as a like attempt in time of profound peace would be in disregard of the restrictions to cases of rebellion and invasion, as the Constitution was originally adopted. It attempts to provide for depriving persons "of liberty, without due process of law." It attempts to annul and set at naught the great constitutional "right" of the people, to be secure in their persons against "unreasonable seizures." It attempts to destroy and annihilate the bulwark of personal liberty, secured in our great chart to the humblest as well as the highest, that "no warrants shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation," and "particularly describing the person to be seized." Nay more, it attempts to change and transform the distribution of powers in our system of government. It attempts to deprive the Judiciary Department of it appropriate and legitimate functions, and to confer them upon the President, the Secretary of War, and the General Officer commanding the Trans Mississippi Department, or rather to confer them entirely upon the President, for those subordinates named in the Act hold their places at his will, and in arrests under this Act are to be governed by his orders. This, by the Constitution, never can be done. Ours is not only a government of limited powers, but each department, the legislative, executive and judicial, are separate and distinct. The issuing of warrants, which are nothing but orders for arrests against civilians or persons in civil life, is a judicial function. The President, under the Constitution has no power to issue any such.—As commander-in-chief of the land and naval forces, and the militia when in actual service, he may order arrests for trials before Courts Martial, according to the rules and articles of war. But he is clothed with no such power over those not in the military service, and not subject to the rules and articles of war. This Act attempts to clothe him with judicial functions, and in a judicial character to do what no judge, under the Constitution, can do; issue orders or warrants for arrest, by which persons are to be deprived of their liberty, imprisoned, immured in dungeons it may be without any oath or affirmation, even as to the probable guilt of the party accused or charged with any of the offences or acts stated. This, under the Constitution, in my judgment, cannot be done. Congress can confer no such power upon our Chief Magistrate. There is no such thing known in this country as political warrants, or "letters de cachet." This Act attempts to institute this new order of things so odious to our ancestors, and so inconsistent with constitutional liberty.

This act, therefore, is unconstitutional, not because Congress has not power to suspend the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus*, but because they have no power to do the thing aimed at in this attempted exercise of it. Congress can suspend the privilege of the writ—the power is clear and unquestioned—neither is the power, as it stands, objectionable. Georgia, in the Convention, voted against the clause conferring it in the Constitution as originally adopted—that, perhaps was a wise and prudent vote. But, with the restrictions subsequently adopted, there can be no well grounded objection to it. It is, under existing restrictions, a wise power. In time of war in cases of rebellion or invasion, it may often be necessary to exercise it—the public safety may require it. I am not prepared to say that the public safety may not require it now. I am not informed of the reasons which induced the President to ask the suspension of the privilege of the writ at this time, or Congress to undertake its suspension as provided in this act. I, however, know of no reasons that require it, and have heard of none. But in the exercise of an undisputed power, they have attempted to do just what cannot be done—to authorize illegal and unconstitutional arrests—there can be no suspension of the writ, under our system of government, against unconstitutional arrests—there can be no suspension allowing, or with a view to permit and authorize the seizure of persons without warrant issued by a judicial officer upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation—the whole Constitution must be read together, and so read and construed as that every part and clause shall stand and have its proper effect under the restrictions of other clauses.

If any conflict arises between clauses in the original and the amendments subsequently made, the original must yield to the amendments, as it will previously made always yields to the modifications of a codicil. Such, of course, was the condition of the old Constitution with its amendments, when the States of this Confederacy adopted it—and it was adopted by these States with the meaning, force and effect it then had. In construing, therefore, those parts of the old Constitution which we adopted, we stand just where we should be to stand, under like circumstances, under it. With these views it will clearly appear that, under our Constitution, Courts cannot be deprived of their right or relieved of their duty to enquire into the legality of all arrests except in case [illegible] to the land and naval forces or in the militia, when in actual service—for the government of which a different provision is made in the Constitution. Under a Constitutional suspension of the privilege of the writ all the Courts could do, would be to see that the party was legally arrested and held—upon proper warrant—upon probable cause supported by oath or affirmation setting forth a crime of some violation of law. Literally and truly then the only effect of a Constitutional exercise of this power over the writ of *habeas corpus* by Congress, is to deprive a person, after being legally confined of the privilege of a discharge before trial, by giving bail, or on account of insufficiency of proof as to probable cause or other like grounds. This privilege only can be suspended and not the writ itself.—The words of the Constitution are aptly chosen to express the purpose and extent to which a suspension can go in this country. With this view the power is a wise one. It can work no serious injury to the citizen and is sufficiently guards the public safety. The party against whom a grave accusation is brought, supported by oath or affirmation, founded upon probable cause, must be held for trial, and if found to be guilty is to be punished according to the nature of his offence. The monstrous consequences of any other view of the subject are apparent. The exercise of the power by Congress may be either general or limited to special cases as in this instance. If it had been general under any other view what would have been the condition of every citizen in the land? The weaker would have been completely in the power of the stronger without remedy or redress. Any one in the community might seize for any motive or for any purpose, any other, and confine him most wrongfully and shamefully. Combinations of several against a few might be formed for a like purpose, and there would be no remedy or redress against this species of licensed lawlessness. The Courts would be closed—all personal security and personal safety would be swept away. Instead of a land of laws, the whole country would be no better than a White friar's domain—a perfect Alsatia. This would be the inevitable effect of the exercise of the power, by a general suspension, with any other view of the subject, than this presented. The same effects as to outrages upon personal rights must issue under a limited suspension confined to any specified cases under any other view. No such huge and enormous wrongs can ever spring from our Constitution if it be rightly administered. So that the conclusion of the whole matter is well stated by the Governor in his late Message, in the brief, comprehensive, but exact terms—"The only suspension of the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* known to our Constitution and compatible with the provisions already quoted, goes to the simple extent of preventing the release, under it, of persons whose arrests have been ordered, under Constitutional warrants from Judicial Authority."

[CONCLUSION NEXT WEEK.]

THE REDUCTION OF CURRENCY.—In all the world's history there has been no such immense diminution of the currency of a country as has been made in this Confederacy within the six weeks preceding the 1st of this month. From $900,000,000 down to $300,000,000—curtailed at the rate of 100,000,000 a week—and all this immense sum either paid in taxes or invested in the government's 4 per cent. bonds; all done with scarcely a sign of dissatisfaction, and generally with cheerfulness. It is a wonderful event, showing the immense resources not less than the abounding patriotism of the people of the Confederate States. Why a contraction of one-twentieth of the amount in New York has made a crash which extended all over the United States in the suspension of banks and of business, and wide spread ruin of the millionaires of that boastful seat of wealth and power. We doubt not that if the Lincoln government were to require such a measure to the extent of one-half of what we have cheerfully submitted to, it would produce ruin and riots and revolution.

The items of the reduction are somewhat as follows: Funded in 4 per cents., say $250,000 000. Interest bearing treasury notes declared funded and no longer to circulate as money, $122,582,266. Paid in as the recent January tax, about $78,000,000. Tax of 33⅓ per cent. upon about $360,000,000 of our [illegible] treasury notes, reducing their money value to two thirds, $120,000,000. Estimated amount of $100 notes, no longer current, $30,000,000. In all, $600,000,000. Besides which, there will doubtless be a further large amount funded before the 1st of July west of the Mississippi, and something by the States before the 1st of January next.

The remaining $300,000,000 of currency consists of 1s, 2s, 5s, and the larger notes at their reduced value. The 5s and the larger notes will soon be altogether withdrawn, and their place taken to the same extent by the new issue, which has this guarantee to make it more valuable than was the currency thus so suddenly withdrawn, that the amount cannot be increased. At least such is understood to have been the intention of Congress, though it is somewhat vaguely expressed. It is pretty certain, however, that the new Congress to assemble next month will remove all doubt upon the subject, for the idea of again flooding the country with five hundred or a thousand millions of treasury notes, and again going through the process of inflation and contraction, is not to be tolerated for a moment. To pay the expenses of carrying on the war, the treasury will rely upon taxes and the 6 per cent. untaxable bonds which the currency act authorizes to be issued.

The effect upon prices of all this immense curtailment of currency is not yet materially apparent. It will soon be seen, and it is reasonable to expect that it will be very considerable.—*Sav. Ob.*

New Advertisements.

WANTED,
BACON OR LARD
FOR THE SOLDIERS' FAMILIES!

I WOULD CALL UPON ALL THOSE OFFICERS of this county who can possibly spare BACON or LARD, to sell the same to me for the use of the soldiers' families. I confidently hope to be able to furnish them all with it, though but you are aware that the order allowing us to keep the tithe of bacon was revoked as the army was in great need of it. The beef which I purchased and packed is now all distributed.

Shall the soldiers' wives and children sit down day after day to dry bread without any meat whilst there is any to spare? From the Agent or Assts. as well as from the observations of some of the soldiers' wives, I have reason to know that some persons could read ly spare and have enough left for themselves. Such persons refusing to sell for Confederate money and demanding two or three prices in gold and silver from poor soldiers' wives, may find themselves compelled to take that currency and receive a less price than I would now pay them for the soldiers' families must be fed. I do hope there no such measures need be adopted, but that the mere notice, that it is absolutely needed for our soldiers' families, will be sufficient to influence those able to spare either bacon or lard to sell it for this purpose and to call on me without delay.

I will pay in the new issue of Confederate money, and could also [illegible] it money.

E. A. VOGLER,
County Commissioner, Forsyth Co.
Salem, April 18th, 1864. 51-4t.

To the People of North Carolina.

In compliance with the wishes of many friends, I announce myself a candidate for the office of Governor of North Carolina, at the election to be held on the first Thursday in August next.

My principles and views as a Conservative "after the straitest sect," are well known to the people of the State. These principles and views are what they have been. They will not be changed.

I am not disposed, at a time like this, to invite the people from their employments, and add to the excitement which prevails in the public mind, by haranguing them for their votes. We need all our energies to meet the common enemy, and to provide means of subsistence for our troops in the field and the people at home. Let the people go calmly and firmly to the polls and vote for the men of their choice. I will abide cheerfully their decision, whatever it may be.

If elected I will do everything in my power to promote the interests, the honor and the glory of North Carolina, and to secure an honorable peace.

March 4-tc. W. W. HOLDEN.

LIST YOUR TAXES.

ON Friday and Saturday, the 22d and 23d days of April next, I will attend in the Commissioner's Hall for the purpose of listing the taxable property of the citizens of SALEM DISTRICT. By calling at Boner & Crist's Store suitable blanks can be procured, which will facilitate the task of listing.

JOSHUA BONER.

Salem, April 14, 1864. td.

"THE MERCURY."

New Series---Vol. IV, No. 1.

Beautifully Illustrated.

ON or about April 16th, 1864, I shall resume the publication of THE MERCURY, which was published at Tarboro', N. C., until December 11th, 1861.

It will be published weekly in the city of Raleigh, N. C., in quarto form—eight pages—like of the *Magnolia Weekly, Illustrated News* and *Southern Field and Fireside*—and will be gotten up in the very best manner that the facilities and press resources of the country will allow, and will be devoted to a dignified standard of *Political, Southern Literature*. Current events will be duly chronicled, and an unqualified support of a vigorous prosecution of the War will be given. To such matters as I may deem it incumbent to refer, editorially, I shall do so independently—being neutral in nothing—always keeping the two great land marks of Southern Independence and Southern Literature steadily in view.

Each number of *The Mercury* will be handsomely ILLUSTRATED with beautifully executed engravings of subjects taken from the best original contributions.

The most liberal prices will be paid for Contributions of Novelletes, Poetry, Romance, Essays, Criticisms, Sketches, Incidents and Anecdotes of the War, Witticisms, &c.

Those desiring to begin with the first issue may remit subscriptions at once upon the following

TERMS.

1	Subscription 6 months,	$10
6	" 6 "	50
11	" 3 "	5

No subscription taken for a shorter period than three months, nor for a longer period than six months. The trade supplied at $25 per hundred.

WM. B. SMITH, Editor & Proprietor.
Raleigh, N. C.

A List of Letters remaining in the Post Office at Salem, N. C., April 1st, 1864.

Miss Harriet J. Ayers	Mrs. Elizabeth Kiser,
W. J. Bishop,	James Norman or
Miss Sallie Brower,	Joshua Norman,
Mrs Rebecca H Brooks	Louisa Osborn,
Miss Susan E. Cecil, 2	Miss Sarah Peddicord
Samuel Cecil.	Pache Peddicord
[illegible],	Miss Crosie Spach,
Mrs. Nancy Daniels,	" Martha Stuart,
Capt. Thos J. Finnie,	Richard Tally,
Miss Margaret Fleming,	Henry W. Thomason, care of Widow Betsey Thomason,
Daniel Grubb,	Jas. Wilson,
Charles Gates,	Rev. Robt. H. Wal-
Miss Alla Hier,	ton,
" Catharine E Hanes	T. Warner.
W. E. Hallewell,	

Persons calling for any of the above letters will please say they are advertised.

O. A. KEEHLN, P. M.
Salem, N. C., April 1st, 1864.

BRING IN YOUR TITHE BACON.

THE Farmers of Forsyth County are requested to deliver to the tithe boon to me at Salem, and to A. Now, Bethania.

I will attend to receive the tithe at
Kernersville, Monday and Tuesday, April 4th & 5th
J. W. Cole's, Thursday, April 7th.
Lewisville, Monday & Tuesday, April 11th & 12th.

Those who have not delivered their tithe of Corn, Wheat, Oats, Rye, Hay, Fodder, Wool, &c will please bring it in; the penalty now for refusing to deliver is five hundred per cent. instead of fifty. Producers are now also obliged to haul their produce twelve miles instead of eight. All living within twelve miles of Salem will therefore please deliver to me at Salem. All the tithe must be delivered by the last day of April next.

R. GRAY, Agent for Forsyth Co.
March 17, 1864. 46-tf.

CIRCULAR.

CHIEF ENROLLING OFFICE, 6th CONG. DIST.
Greensboro N. C., Jan. 18th, 1864.

The attention of all concerned is invited to [illegible] General orders No. 141, Adjutant and Inspector General's Office Richmond, Va., October 29th, 1863:

"Soldiers returning home on furlough, or on [illegible] reaching places at which they may stay during furlough, will immediately report to the nearest Enrolling Officer, who will keep a register of their names, descriptive lists, place where stationed by [illegible] whom the furlough was granted, and the time at which it expires."

Capt. David Carroll, A. C. O., will register for Alamance county, at Graham, N. C.
Lieut. Jas. C. Dobbin, A. E. O., will register for Guilford county, at Greensboro', N. C.
Lieut. W. A. Albright, A. E. O., will register for Forsyth county, at Winston, N. C.
Capt. M. C. Moore, A. E. O., will register for Richmond county, at Franciscoville, N. C.
Capt. W. R. Jones, A. E. O., will register for Rockingham county, at Leaksville, N. C.
Lieut. H. L. Cobb, A. E. O., will register for Cass well county, at Yanceyville, N. C.
Lieut. John W. Pulpit, A. E. O., will register for Person county, at Roxboro, N. C.

All soldiers at home on furlough or those who have received, and have not extended, furloughs, must report to the Enrolling Officers of their respective counties for registration.

Deserters or men furloughed by local physicians, certifying that their constitutions for the service of the [illegible] have been [illegible] will be reported to County Enrolling Officers but soldiers whose furloughs have not expired will be reported before the District Examining Board of Retired Hospital Examining Board, for examination and [illegible] application for [illegible] Detail must be forwarded through the Enrolling [illegible] to the [illegible] by whom such application comes. Applications will not be acted upon without the opinion of the County Officers as to the [illegible] of the party.

jan. 28. [illegible]
and Enrolling Officer 6th Cong. Dist.